UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25559
8 April 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1993 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIA, THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO AND TUNISIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In keeping with the responsibilities of their role in the maintenance of international peace and security and the strengthening of cooperation between States, the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union, which are striving to make that institution a factor for stability at the regional and international levels, express their commitment to working together with the international community to establish a world order where peace, security, cooperation and respect for human rights prevail.

In endeavouring to achieve that objective, the countries of the Union are pursuing their efforts at a time when the region is experiencing a situation requiring accelerated action to eliminate sources of tension so that those efforts can be directed towards ensuring relations of security, peace and stability in the region and taking action to promote progress and development.

In that connection, the ongoing crisis between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and certain Western countries has from its onset been a source of anxiety to the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union owing to its adverse repercussions on the region.

On the basis of the communiqué issued by the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union at its extraordinary meeting held at Rabat, Morocco, on 10 December 1992, and on instructions from our respective Governments, we should like to draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the difficulties encountered and the damage sustained by the countries of the Union as a result of their continued application of Security Council resolution 748 (1992).

It is not the intention of the member countries to enumerate the difficulties and damage in an exhaustive and detailed manner at the present time, and they may perhaps provide particulars on a subsequent occasion. They can, however, be summarized as follows:

Disruption of the functioning of the Arab Maghreb Union, its activities and the meetings of its subsidiary organs at all levels;

An adverse impact on the execution of joint economic projects, current or prospective, involving the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and other members of the Union, which has extended to air transport, trade, technical cooperation, investment, agriculture, industry, employment, energy, the movement of persons, tourism and the development of frontier zones.

The net effect is to hold up the economic integration of the countries of the region, to say nothing of the human suffering being endured by its peoples.

The States of the Arab Maghreb Union, while reaffirming their continuing resolve to respect international legitimacy and their condemnation of terrorism in all its forms, express the hope that all parties will work to settle this crisis by peaceful, just and honourable means.

In light of the good offices currently being exercised at all levels, in the Maghreb and in the Arab world, with a view to securing compliance with Security Council resolution 731 (1992) and identifying the appropriate means of giving practical effect to the resolution in accordance with international conventions and international law, the States of the Arab Maghreb Union urge the Security Council to reconsider its resolutions so that the embargo and the restrictions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya can be lifted. They hope that the Security Council will take this step in order to end the suffering, eliminate the risks inherent in the continued application of the sanctions or their strengthening and enable the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union and their peoples to direct their efforts to development and to making their contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security.

We should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hamadi KHOUINI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Tunisia

(Signed) Mohammed Nacer BENJELLOUN TOUIMI
Chargé d'affaires
Acting Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of Morocco

(Signed) Rabah HADID
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative
of the People's Democratic
Republic of Algeria

(Signed) Ali Ahmed ELHOUDERI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

(Signed) Mohamedou OULD MOHAMED MAHMOUD
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Islamic Republic of Mauritania